

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Paragraph [0011] has been amended as follows:

[0011] The present invention has been completed in view of the above mentioned problems. That is, the theme to be solved by the invention is to provide a piezoelectric/electrostrictive actuator to which a high-temperature heating process can be applied, which ensures mass production at a low cost, which can be driven with a high-strength electric field, ~~in which slit portions have~~ may form cells ~~defined by the lines inclusive of lines other than at the straight line shape~~ with cell width of 60 μm or less, and in which the cells have a high aspect ratio, thereby enabling a greater displacement to be realized with a weaker electric field, and also to provide a method for manufacturing such an actuator.

After making many investigations regarding the piezoelectric/electrostrictive actuator and the method for manufacturing the same, it is found that the above-mentioned theme can be dissolved by the piezoelectric/electrostrictive actuator and by the method for manufacturing it as shown below.

Paragraph [0014] has been amended as follows:

[0014] In the cell driving type actuator according to the invention, moreover, it is preferable that the surface roughness R_t of the wall surfaces of piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements where the elements face one another and form a cell is approximately 10 μm or less. It is preferable that the width of the comb-like piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements varies from the recess to the front end of the comb teeth, and it is also preferable that the spacings between the adjacent piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements for forming a cell, or, the spacings between the cell and its adjacent cell, ~~may have at least two different distances~~ the width of a cell defined by two sets of piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements being present adjacent

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

each other, and, the space defined by a pair of the cells and its adjacent cell may be different from pair to pair. That is, at least two different lengths may exist as for both the width and the space, respectively.

Paragraph [0048] has been amended as follows:

[0048] As above-mentioned in detail, the present invention solves the first to eighth problems in the conventional art, and offers a cell driving type actuator and a method for manufacturing the actuator, wherein a heating process at a high temperature can be applied; mass production at low cost is possible; the slit portions may form each have a cell~~cells defined by the lines inclusive of lines which has a shape other than a straight one~~line, a width of 60 μm or less, and a high aspect ratio; the cells can be activated with a higher electric field strength; and the actuator is based on the principle of the piezoelectric/electrostrictive effect where a greater displacement can be obtained with a smaller electric field strength.